

Royal National Institute for the Blind



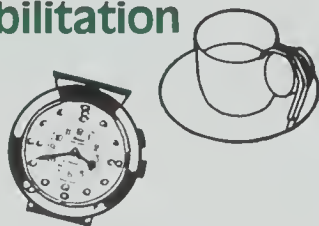
Report for year ending 31 March 1984

Education



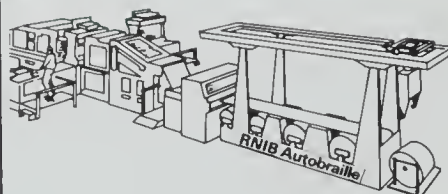
- 390** children in RNIB's schools
- 45** students at the North London School of Physiotherapy
- 530** students supported in higher education
- 125** students at RNIB's Commercial College
- 10,000** books borrowed from RNIB's student braille library
- 8,945** books borrowed from RNIB's student tape library

Rehabilitation



- 305** people attended RNIB's rehabilitation centre
- 20** orientation and mobility instructors trained

Braille



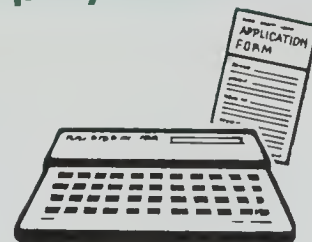
- 240** braille books published
- 50** new braille music titles produced
- 455,000** braille periodicals sent out
- 50,000** Moon books, pamphlets and periodicals issued
- 23,000** sales orders for goods and publications fulfilled

Accommodation



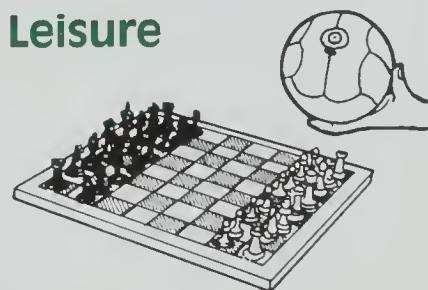
- 140** residents in RNIB homes for elderly blind and deaf-blind people

Employment



- 160** blind people helped to find jobs
- 120** self-employed blind people supported in homeworkers scheme
- 50** people in RNIB's London hostel

Leisure



- 2,000,000** Talking Books on loan
- 5,230** people had holidays in RNIB hotels
- 25** blind people competed in international sports competitions, helped by RNIB

Royal National Institute for the Blind

Patrons Her Majesty The Queen
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother

**President, Sunshine Homes and
Schools for Blind Children** Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon

President His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, PC, MC

Vice Presidents The Most Rev. His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury
The Most Rev. His Grace the Lord Archbishop of York
President, Canadian National Institute for the Blind
Irene, Lady Astor of Hever

Chairman of the Executive Council *Duncan A. Watson, BA (Oxon)

Vice Chairman *John A. Wall, MA (Oxon)

Hon. Treasurers J.A. Dunn, FIB A.F. Morton

Hon. Sub Treasurer H.D. de Wolf, AIB

Hon. Financial Adviser The Right Honourable the Lord Catto

Hon. Consultant in Ophthalmology Lorimer Fison, FRCS

Hon. Adviser on Properties John H. Chapman, FRICS, FRVA

Director General Ian W. Bruce

Deputy Director General *George T. Willson

Finance Secretary Barry T. Gifford, ACIS

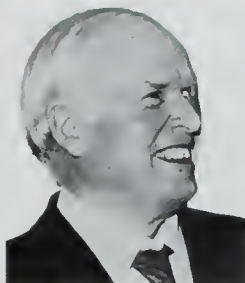
Auditors Clark Whitehill

Solicitors Lawrence Graham

***blind members**

224 Great Portland Street London W1N 6AA

From RNIB's Chairman



The ensuing pages chronicle another busy, purposeful year's work on behalf of Britain's 130,000 blind people; a year in which, thanks to you, we were able to spend over £15m. on the wide range of services we provide to improve the quality of life for blind people of all ages and to help us lead full and active lives in the community.

In these days, when there is an increasingly vociferous demand for the greater public accountability of voluntary organisations and, more particularly, for the adoption of standard forms of account which the public can understand and so see how the money they give is spent, it is pleasing to note that only 1.4% of our total income goes on administration.

During the year under review we have obtained Privy Council approval for the various amendments we proposed to our Royal Charter. The effect of these amendments is to give blind people and organisations of blind people an even greater say in

our affairs. We are convinced that this participation in our deliberations enables us the better to identify and satisfy the needs and aspirations of blind people. We have also appointed a dynamic new Director General; Ian Bruce, who is already injecting fresh ideas into our thinking. These developments underline our awareness that we must continue to innovate so that we can go on extending and improving our services.

At present we plan major capital expenditure on our rehabilitation services; on our schools; on our talking book services; and on a new commercial training college: all designed to equip blind people to meet the challenge and to seize the opportunities of the closing years of the century. In addition, several in-depth studies are currently being conducted into, for example, the social welfare and health service needs of our clients. These studies are already indicating possible new areas of activity. We aim to review all these needs during a weekend seminar to be held in the spring or early summer of 1985 to determine priorities and to evolve a rolling programme for the next decade.

Of course, all this will cost money and it is estimated that in the next few years something like £25m. will have to be raised to finance our current plans. Although our results

for this year have been very good it still looks as if we will need a further £17m. to enable us to meet our targets.

As always we are deeply indebted to all those generous people who have supported us in our work by legacies, donations and voluntary action. We are particularly grateful to the many solicitors and trustee banks who continue to bring our needs to the attention of their clients.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the staff in all our establishments; the many voluntary workers who help RNIB and who befriend blind people up and down the country, as well as the members of the Council and its Committees who give so much of their time to our affairs.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Duncan Watson' in a cursive style.

Duncan Watson
Chairman

From the Director General



public — are not doing enough. For example, very many blind people are convinced that local government social services they receive have been deteriorating over the last 15 years.

During the next five years RNIB will be redoubling its efforts through an active expansion of services to try and reduce the gap between what blind people deserve and what they are getting at the moment. The Chairman has already touched on vital developments which will cost £25 million and I fear that by next year the figure will be higher. Through the generosity of donors, in particular over the last two years, we have £8m towards that target but this still leaves a long way to go.

If you have ideas on how our services should be expanded, or you have support to give, please do write to me.

Dear Friends and Supporters

Even though I have been at RNIB only since early November 1983 I have made it a priority to get out and about to see RNIB services where they are actually delivered — in our schools, homes, libraries and assessment and rehabilitation centres. After these visits I can say to you that your financial and other support is being well used. The staff and volunteers at our establishments are committed to providing the very

best for the blind children in our care, and to giving blind adults the best training, rehabilitation and other services we can manage.

The first thing I learnt on joining the RNIB was that very many blind people lead fulfilling lives easily equal to those of their sighted peers. But many others are losing out, not simply because they are blind but because we — that is government, voluntary organisations and the

Ian Bruce

Director General

One of the highlights of RNIB's year was the opening by Lord Snowdon of the new London **Resource Centre** in October 1983 to mark International White Cane Day.

For the first time blind people can examine, all in one place, the 500 or so specially designed or adapted goods sold by RNIB at heavily subsidised prices and get their hands on some of the exciting — but expensive — high technology and computerised office equipment on display. The staff will demonstrate and advise on these goods and the commercial products shown in the model kitchen.

The Resource Centre was an immediate success. Several hundred visitors arrived in its first month and at peak times there are over 500 a week. Groups have bussed in from as far off as Devon and individuals made special journeys from Scotland and Ireland.

RNIB is grateful to the many manufacturers and stores who donated goods for the Resource Centre.

Among the many articles RNIB sells to make life easier and pleasanter for blind people are tactile watches, rain warning devices (so that a blind home-maker can bring in the washing or the baby), a sound-only television receiver (so that a blind person can keep up with the gossip in the pub or the ante-natal

clinic), 47 varieties and sizes of white sticks and canes, pension book signature guides, a crossword puzzle kit, chess sets and balls with bells in them.

Over 200,000 articles were sold during the year, at a cost to RNIB of £1,455,000.

RNIB hopes that more local societies for blind people and local authority social services departments will set up similar displays in their own areas. To encourage their spread, RNIB is extending its subsidy from its charitable income for this purpose.

As well as sponsoring the development of special aids, RNIB helps blind people by adapting their existing equipment at no charge. Electric irons, washing machine panels, cooker knobs, central heating thermostats, microwave oven dials,

even bathroom scales and deep fat fryers can be modified so that the controls can be felt. Our engineers workshop has made commemorative braille plaques, brailled lift indicator panels, repaired braille writers and braille shorthand machines and trained staff of prisons with braille production units to repair braille writers too.

Our Technical Department sponsors research into aids: Brunel and Bristol Universities are both involved in RNIB projects on reading aids. The Department is working on synthetic speech as a substitute for sight. For example, it adapted a blood-sugar analyser with a visual display to "speak" the information. For the first time blind diabetics can measure their own sugar level without calling on a sighted person for help.



Jobs

Despite fierce competition amongst job seekers, the RNIB **employment service** has found new areas of work for blind people, for example as a trainee actuary and a library assistant; the service acquired the latest electronic braille device for a dean of a university faculty; organised the provision of special equipment through the Manpower Services Commission for, amongst others, a blind secretary, a computer programmer and a teacher.

Some 150 blind people are benefiting from the Manpower Services Commission's Personal Reader Service administered by RNIB. This pays for people to read to blind workers and has helped physiotherapists to gain promotion and blind people in careers as diverse as local authority committee clerk, business and social work.

RNIB helped young blind people to get their first job experience through the various state schemes.

RNIB is bringing up to date its **office training**. The Commercial College under its blind principal will move within the next two years, we hope to a site where it will link up with a college of further education so that its students are not set apart. The College trains secretaries, shorthand and audio typists, switchboard operators and computer programmers. It teaches the use of special aids and the newest high technology office equipment. The

College is developing its courses to provide blind office workers with a broad-based commercial and business training. Its former students work in government departments, banks and legal offices around the country, doing the same jobs as sighted workers.

RNIB operates a scheme for **self-employed blind people** in the South East. Amongst the goods they made this year were a mediaeval cradle for a film set and doormats for the War Cabinet Room's Museum. Candidates are sponsored by their local authorities who pay for their training in skills such as basket-making, knitting and piano-tuning. The local authority subsidises the blind worker, who works from his own home, until he has enough business to become self-supporting. RNIB is considering how blind people can take advantage of the current interest in transferring traditional office work to the home.

Getting about

The **National Mobility Centre** is administered by the RNIB for a consortium of voluntary organisations. The Centre trains specialist workers employed by schools and local authorities to teach visually impaired people the skills they need to travel safely and independently.

Braille

RNIB was set up 116 years ago by a



Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, at RNIB's experimental electronic office

blind man to produce embossed literature. The braille system of raised dots read with the fingers is now well known world-wide as associated with blindness. It can be used for most languages as well as its original French — Greek, Russian, Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew; it is used in mathematics and music. It is as important at work as at school and for pleasure.

RNIB is the largest braille producer in Europe. This year it brailled junior readers and Shakespeare for schools; family planning leaflets; recipes for slimmers, diabetics and microwave oven owners; new statutes; work documents for blind physiotherapists, teachers, social workers and computer programmers; instructions for the



The many uses of braille . . . Include maps

latest electronic switchboards; novels and poems; football and cricket fixtures; proms prospectuses . . .

Blind musicians, teachers, piano tuners, and people who play and sing for fun can get a variety of music in braille from RNIB. Blind people join with sighted singers in choirs and make music and give concerts with other sighted musicians. A new venture in the **Music Department** developed with help from the City

University is the inclusion of tape excerpts to illustrate the music described in the braille textbooks. Blind people interested in music but who cannot read the complicated colour braille music system will be able to enjoy the books too.

Getting on

Most people who lose their sight never get to grips with braille. It is harder to learn when you are older and your fingers may be arthritic or just less sensitive. RNIB is the only producer in the world of a simpler form of raised print called **Moon** after its nineteenth century inventor. This uses embossed curves based on the alphabet. Last year RNIB encouraged the development at Sevenoaks School of a Moon-writing machine so that individuals could write their own letters, make up their own lists of telephone numbers and keep notes. RNIB's Moon Branch writes letters and birthday greetings as well as producing books, magazines, knitting patterns and instructions for using domestic appliances.

For people who can no longer manage on their own, RNIB runs four **homes** around the country where special care is taken by staff used to blind people. Two of the homes, in Harrogate and Burnham-on-Sea, cater for people who are both deaf and blind, the other two are in Hove and Westgate-on-Sea.

At play

RNIB's subsidised hotels provide welcome breaks for blind people and their guides in a homely atmosphere in four seaside resorts — Scarborough, Blackpool, Llandudno and Eastbourne.

For more active blind people, RNIB co-ordinates sporting holidays and club events in, amongst others, sailing, bowls, athletics and swimming.

‘The sound that upsets you most is the rustle of a newspaper that you know you’ll never be able to read again’

For many people the worst deprivation of losing their sight is that they can no longer read. RNIB's best known service which reaches almost half the blind people in Britain is its **Talking Books Library**. Eight full length books are recorded every week, unabridged, by professional readers, in RNIB's own studios. There are some 5000 titles in the library on cassettes which can be played back only on special machines provided by RNIB on free permanent loan. Anyone whose doctor, optician or ophthalmic specialist can certify they have defective vision (to what is called NI2 or worse) is eligible for membership of the Library.

RNIB's 3000 strong team of

servicing volunteers visit Library members in their own homes to make minor repairs. Their caring, continuous help keeps going a service which brings much pleasure to almost 60,000 blind people. We were particularly pleased to hear from Lord Stockton (Harold Macmillan) how much enjoyment he gets from Talking Books. **Every year two million books are sent out on loan.**

Learning

There are some 2,000 blind children under 16 in the UK. RNIB's help starts when a proud new mother is first told that her baby cannot see. Our eleven Education Advisers help parents to adjust and with their children's schooling.

At our four **Sunshine House**

Nursery Schools young blind children get an intensive programme of education and care, learning to feed themselves by touch rather than imitating those they see; learning by touch and sound and smell about the world around them. Most parents would probably choose to care for their young blind children at home if they could and we are reviewing how best we can bring specialised help to them in their own homes. Most of the children in our nursery schools have other serious handicaps to cope with, as well as blindness.

A primary school at **Rushton Hall** in Northampton and a secondary school at **Condoval Hall** in Shropshire cater for multi-handicapped children; blind children in wheelchairs who may also be deaf and mentally handicapped have very

special needs and need very skilled training. This year we set up a special unit at Condoval Hall for school leavers who are both deaf and blind.

For less handicapped school leavers, RNIB's **Hethersett College** in Surrey runs work experience courses and introduces its 42 students to a variety of work, for example, engineering and light industry, and of interests such as sailing, judo and yoga. Some students take City and Guilds craft courses along with classmates at a local further education college. Many go out to work or on to further training.

Worcester College for boys and **Chorleywood College** for girls prepare pupils for O and A level examinations. This year two-thirds of our school leavers went on to take degree courses in universities or polytechnics. One Worcester boy went to Nigeria to do voluntary service.

Chorleywood is working on an exciting government-sponsored research project so that girls can write their examination papers in braille and have them transcribed into print electronically in strictly confidential conditions for marking by public examiners. Worcester College has expanded its teaching of computer science.

For visually handicapped adults who are held back by literacy problems, RNIB is exploring providing up to date material for adult literacy tutors.



A Condoval Hall pupil learns to read using a CCTV which magnifies print onto its screen

How RNIB spent over £15 million to help blind people in 1983-1984

Ho

£000s

Education and training (Sunshine nursery schools, schools for multiply handicapped blind children, Chorleywood College for Girls, Worcester College for boys, Education Advisory Service, Further Education College, support for students and braille and tape libraries, physiotherapy and commercial training, mobility training and research)	4925
Talking Book Service (with over 57,000 members)	1477
Publications (including braille and Moon)	2247
Residential homes, hotels and hostel	1755
Rehabilitation Centre for newly blind people	744
Subsidised sales of goods (specially designed or adapted aids to help make life easier and pleasanter)	1455
Employment Services (helping to find jobs, vocational research, assisting home workers, kiosks)	561
Grants to other voluntary organisations helping blind people and to individuals (including amounts to local societies under Unified Collecting Agreements)	1247
Public Education	173
Research into the prevention of blindness	94
Resource centres	54
Central administration	213
Improvements and additions to properties and equipment	61
TOTAL	15006

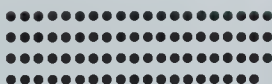
Full accounts are available on request

Where the money is spent

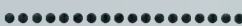


£000s

3929



911



357



1070



564



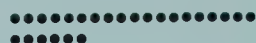
634



311



1247



173



94



54



213



61



7776

*from local authorities, central government and charitable trusts and including £896,000 from blind people towards the cost

7230

Where the money comes from

Fees and grants*

Made up by RNIB from legacies, investment income and donations

£000s

996



566



1890



685



180



821



250



RNIB supports several hundred students at university and college. It gives grants for equipment such as portable tape recorders for note-taking and its advisers visit to give practical advice and general encouragement and to talk about students' experiences, one of the more unusual subjects studied this year was Air and Space Law.

In 1983 RNIB's North London **School of physiotherapy** was pleased to welcome a visually-handicapped student teacher to the staff, bringing fresh ideas and insights to the task of training blind and partially-sighted students in this professional skill. The 42 students follow the same course and aim to achieve the same qualification as their sighted counterparts in other physiotherapy schools. We were very proud that all our final year students were successful in the examinations of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy and have all become practising physiotherapists.

RNIB's **braille and tape student libraries** produce books for individual students. There are almost 1,700 members of the student tape library and 300 volunteers recording books on subjects from classical literature to computers, history to horticulture, using their ingenuity to turn diagrams and illustrations into words. In 1983 RNIB set up with the University the **RNIB and Leeds University Recording Centre** where local volunteers record books for local use and for the Student Tape

Library. **The Express Reading Service** produces quickly short items on request, on anything from biochemistry to gardening.

‘You never forget what it’s like to go blind’

Forty people go blind every day in Britain. As the leading organization working with visual impairment RNIB has a special concern to help — and with more than the familiar white stick and a Talking Book. RNIB's Rehabilitation Study Group has been examining how to develop its rehabilitation service to meet changing needs. It has visited local authorities in the UK and centres overseas to learn about and advise on the latest developments.



RNIB's **Rehabilitation Centre** in Devon under a blind principal offers courses tailor-made for people of working age and older who have recently lost their sight. The courses are complementary to those available from other organizations such as local authorities. They aim to help someone who has lost his sight to learn to get about on his own, to run his own home and to hold down a job.

They include the use of new high technology aids to overcome some of the problems of blindness such as the BBC microcomputer with synthetic speech, for instance, which will take in material in braille and print. A recent resident expected to be demoted when his sight failed but after his rehabilitation course, during which he tried aids such as a print magnifier and a talking calculator, he was promoted. The Rehabilitation Centre invites company personnel officers to visit the Centre to see for themselves visually-handicapped people at work. This year the Centre began Social Rehabilitation Courses for people who had retired or who because of their handicaps or family commitments were not looking for work. This aspect is expanding rapidly. Some 300 residents trained at the Centre last year.

Speaking up

Many people believe that all blind people get a special allowance to compensate for the extra costs of blindness — using a typewriter to

write to a grandchild instead of a ballpoint pen and a pad of paper; taking taxis or paying for companions on a difficult journey; paying someone else to do the decorating or mend a fuse. Not so: there is **no** special allowance for blindness. RNIB and other organizations concerned with blindness continued their campaign for an allowance. We wrote to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and met Mr. Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Health and Social Security without success. We shall carry on campaigning.

On another front, with the help particularly of members of the House of Lords, we were more successful. After intensive campaigning by RNIB the Bill privatising British Telecom now includes safeguards for the many visually-handicapped people who earn their living as telephonists using specially modified equipment.

We carried our campaigning to the general public through press, radio and television. We are grateful to the media for their support.

‘I couldn’t make her understand that I didn’t want to cross the road’

Many people go through life without ever meeting someone who is blind. A first meeting can be awkward on both sides. We try to help the general public to be more understanding.



Learning to write braille

We publish free leaflets and every year answer thousands of enquiries from the general public, and especially from school children. This year we made a 15-minute film about RNIB called **Second Sight**. In our advertising too we hope to spread information about blindness as well as knowledge of RNIB.

Preventing blindness

RNIB sponsors research into the prevention of blindness at several centres. Some £94,000 was spent on this during the year. Nine research grants, four fellowships and five studentship grants were made for studies into cataracts, blindness associated with diabetes and various eye conditions.

RNIB is pleased to be associated with the **National Rubella Campaign** which, under the patronage of HRH The Princess of Wales, is encouraging girls to get

vaccinated against rubella (German measles). If rubella is caught while a woman is pregnant, the child may be handicapped.





Trying a microwave oven at RNIB's Rehabilitation Centre

tape version.

Kellogg's, manufacturers of the Sunshine Breakfast, supported RNIB's Sunshine Fund in 1983 with a campaign backed by the 'Bring Me Sunshine' duo, Morecambe and Wise. Consumers sent the special packet tops to Kellogg's who donated 3p for each received.

The 'Best in Britain' campaign sponsored by **C & A** in association with the **Daily Star** honoured the achievements of people from all walks of life who had helped to put the 'Great' into Great Britain. At a glittering evening at the Cafe Royal 'Best in Britain' scrolls were presented to award winners including Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, David Essex, Bob

Champion, Robert Powell, Keith Castle, Terence English, FRCS of Papworth Hospital, the Rev. Chad Varah, and representatives of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast.

Throughout the year, all over the British Isles, thousands of volunteers have been supporting these and hundreds of other local campaigns such as house-to-house collections, flag days, sponsored events and many people have been getting together with friends to form local RNIB Appeal Groups to raise additional funds. We are grateful to them all for their many and varied ways of helping us to help blind people.

In so many ways a Right Royal Year!

Finding the money

The highlight of RNIB's fund-raising year was undoubtedly on 26 October when Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales received on behalf of Prince William, the book of bedtime 'Stories for a Prince'.

Schoolchildren throughout the country took part in a national competition sponsored by **H J Heinz Company Limited** to write a bedtime story for Prince William and the fourteen winning authors presented the completed book to the Princess at the Cafe Royal, London. All the stories were sponsored by the childrens' families and friends in support of RNIB and the Institute receives royalties from the sale of the book and the cassette



Bricks from the old Coronation Street set were sold in the UK and in Canada to raise money for RNIB

Royal National Institute for the Blind

224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA

Telephone 01-388 1266

Education Advisory Service, Employment Service, Resource Centre

224 Great Portland Street, London,
W1N 6AA.

Sunshine House nursery schools

Dene Road, **Northwood**, Middlesex,
HA6 1DD (The Bernhard Baron Sunshine
House).

15 Warwick New Road, **Leamington Spa**,
Warwickshire, CV32 5JD.

2 Oxford Road, Birkdale, **Southport**,
Merseyside, PR8 2JT.

Dunnings Road, **East Grinstead**,
W. Sussex, RH19 4ND (The Beachcroft
Towse Sunshine House).

Secondary schools

Chorleywood College for Girls,
Dog Kennel Lane, Chorleywood, Herts,
WD3 5ER.

Worcester College for Boys, Whittington
Road, Worcester, WR5 2JU.

Further education college

Hethersett College, 32 Gatton Road,
Wray Common, Reigate, Surrey,
RH2 0HD.

Schools for blind children with additional handicaps

Condover Hall, Condover, near
Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 7AH.

Pathways, (Deaf-blind unit)
Condover Hall, near Shrewsbury,
Shropshire, SY5 7AH.

Rushton Hall, Rushton, near Kettering,
Northamptonshire, NN14 1RR.

Training centres

North London School of Physiotherapy
for the Visually Handicapped,
10 Highgate Hill, London, N19 5ND.

Commercial Training College,
5 Pembridge Place, London, W2 4XB.

National Mobility Centre

22 Melville Road, Edgbaston,
Birmingham, B16 9JT.

Rehabilitation Centre

Manor House, Middle Lincombe Road,
Torquay, Devon, TQ1 2NG.

Home Industries

Alma Road, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 0AS.

Hostel

Sir Nicholas Garrow House,
1-5 Wedlake Street, off Kensal Road,
North Kensington, London, W10.

Homes

Wavertree House, Furze Hill, Hove,
East Sussex, BN3 1PA.

Westcliff House, Sea Road, Westgate-on-
Sea, Kent, CT8 8QP.

The Kathleen Chambers Home,
97 Barrow Road, Burnham-on-Sea,
Somerset, TA8 2PG.

Tate House, 28 Wetherby Road,
Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 7SA.

Hotels

Alma Court Hotel, West Street,
Scarborough, North Yorkshire, YO11 2QL.

The Century Hotel,
406 North Promenade, Gynn Square,
Blackpool, Lancs, FY1 2LB.

Howard Hotel (James Howard
Memorial), Gloddaeth Crescent,
Central Promenade, Llandudno,
Gwynedd, LL30 2XT.

Palm Court Hotel, Burlington Place,
Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4AR.

Braille services, students' braille and tape libraries, reference library

Braille House, 338/346 Goswell Road,
London, EC1V 7JE.

Express Reading Service

Tarporley Recording Centre, 79 High
Street, Tarporley, Cheshire CM6 0AB

Moon publications

Holmesdale Road, Reigate, Surrey,
RH2 0BA.

Talking Books

**Administrative office and recording
studios**, 224 Great Portland Street,
London, W1N 6AA.

Library, Mount Pleasant, Alperton,
Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 1RR.

Branch Offices

Northern Counties Branch

Hartley Hill, North Street, Leeds,
LS2 8AU.

Director: *M.H. Parsons
Telephone: 0532 456443

Eastern Branch

73 Tenison Road, Cambridge, CB1 2DH.

Director: K.R. Tidmarsh
Telephone: 0223 352768

South Eastern Branch

Alma Road, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 0BA.

Director: *P. Walsh
Telephone: 07372 22426

South Western Branch

Church Square, Taunton, Somerset, TA1
1SA (from 1 September 1983).

Director: *A. Gilbert
Telephone: 0823 85777

Wales Branch

14 Neville Street, Canton, Cardiff,
CF1 8UX.

Director: *T. Tatchell
Telephone: 0222 24574

Scotland Branch

9 Viewfield Place, Stirling, FK8 1NL.

Director: A. Murray
Telephone: 0786 3652

Northern Ireland Branch

8ryson House, 28 Bedford Street,
Belfast, BT2 7FE.

Director: Mrs. M. Murphy
Telephone: 0232 229373

Special Projects Office

3, Trinity Court, Risley Road, Birchwood,
Warrington, Cheshire, WA3 6QT.

Director: G. Sheppard
Telephone: 0925 828282

Sunshine Fund for Blind Babies and Young People

224 Great Portland Street, London,
W1N 6AA.

Secretary: Mrs. E. Ormiston
Telephone: 01-388 1266

*blind member of staff

Founded 1868

Registered in accordance with the National Assistance Act 1948

Incorporated by Royal Charter 1949

Group A — Representatives of the Regional Associations for the Blind

North Regional Association for the Blind

G.W. Black, MB, BS, FRCS
 Councillor H.T. Booth
 Councillor G.E. Carpenter
 Councillor E. Gardner
 Mrs. M. Hunter-Bailey
 *J. Normile
 County Councillor J.T. Thompson
 Councillor T.E. Wanless

Northern Ireland

*J. Anderson, MA, Dip.Ed.

Southern and Western Regional Association for the Blind

*J.D. Benoy
 Mrs. M. Bourne, MBE, JP
 *H.H. Cohn, BA, MCSP, SRP
 Major T.R. Corkery, JP
 Mrs. M.J. Deaper
 *J. Gardner
 M.A. Goodwin
 Councillor R.J. King, MBE
 Colonel C.T. Mitford-Slade, JP, DL
 Miss J.I. Parmer
 A.E. Poole
 A.E. Wintle, MBE, MISW

Scottish National Federation for the Welfare of the Blind

*D.W. Birse
 Councillor J. Cook, JP
 Councillor P.J. Gemmell
 *J.N. Innes

Wales Council for the Blind

P.E. Linton, JP, MBIM, MIIM
 G. Meirion Williams, BA

Group B — Representatives of local government bodies

Association of County Councils

E.G. Culham, DMA, Dip. Soc. Sc.
 County Councillor J. Culpan
 T.N. Hobson
 T.E. Jones
 T.G. Williams, DMA, FISW

Association of Metropolitan Authorities

Councillor P.A. Binns
 Councillor Mrs. P. Ford
 Councillor Ms. P. Moore
 Councillor Mrs. J. Watts

Convention of Scottish Local Authorities

Councillor Mrs. J. Hendry
 Councillor K.A. Simpson

Group C — Representatives of agencies for the blind and national bodies

St. Dunstan's

*D.C. Clark, FCA
 *Richard Dufton, CEng, MIMechE

The Clothworkers' Company

C.M. Mowl, MA

Association for the Education and Welfare of the Visually Handicapped

Miss J. Baron
 *R. Bignell, BA

*blind members

Gardner's Trust for the Blind

Malcolm C. Dunlop, FISM, FInst.

National Deaf-Blind Helpers' League

C.P. Tutt, FIB

National Library for the Blind

- *Mrs. G.A. Bounds, LL.B
- *P.W. Crunden-White, BMus

Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind

- *Sir John Wilson, CBE

Jewish Blind Society

- A.I. Kraiss

Royal Blind Asylum and School, Edinburgh

- Alexander Brown, B.Com, CA

Group D — Representatives of organisations of blind people**National League of the Blind and Disabled**

- *M.A. Barrett
- *George E. Dixon
- *T.B. Foxall
- *C. Hynes
- *T.V. Langford
- *Mrs. G.W. O'Grady
- *George Slaughter
- *John Watt

National Federation of the Blind of the United Kingdom

- *Mrs. J. Allen, MBE
- *Colin M. Low, BA
- *David Mann
- *W.B.L. Poole, MA(Oxon)
- *F. Reid, MA, DPhil
- *Chas. H. Taylor

Association of Blind Piano Tuners

- *J.E. Hunter
- *P.G. Price

Association of Blind Chartered Physiotherapists

- *H.J. Jeans, MCSP
- *Miss J.M. Stonehouse, MCSP

Association of Blind and Partially Sighted Teachers and Students

- *Kevin Connell
- *J.A. Wells, GBSM, ARCO, LRAM, ARCM

Association of Visually Handicapped Telephonists

- *Allen Nokes
- *M.A. Wilson

British Association for Sporting and Recreational Activities of the Blind

- *S. Baker
- *F.W. McFarlane

British Computer Association of the Blind

- *R. Bower
- *J. Wilson

Chorleywood College Old Girls' Association

- *Mrs. G. Gorton

Worcester College Old Boys' Union

- *D.R. Kettle, BA

Royal National College Old Students' Guild

- *Mrs. J.I. Lovell

Circle of Guide Dog Owners

- *W. Kinder

Group E — National members

- L.J. Brice, MSc, FIM
- *D.G. Church, CBE, MA(Oxon)
Derrick W. Croisdale, MBSC
- H.D. de Wolf, AIB
- *R.H. Duclaud-Williams, D.Phil
Jack A. Dunn, FIB
- *The Revd. Canon L.J. Forster, MBE
R. Hartley, MBE, JP

- *H. Heath, DSc, PhD, FRCS
F.J. Hill, CBE, BA, FCP, DCL
- *G.J. Jenkins, LL.B
- *K.W. Mason, BSc, C(Eng), FICHEME
Gordon L. May, OBE, Companion I.
Gas E
Alan F. Morton
- *T.J. Parker, OBE

- R.K. Price, CB
- *Paul P. Questier, MA(Oxon)
K.S. Spreadbury, BA
B.E.A. Vigers, MA(Cantab)
- *John A. Wall, MA(Oxon)
- *Duncan A. Watson, BA(Oxon)
- *Mrs. J.L. Williams, MCSP
Mrs. Alys Woolley



A new experience for a child at a Sunshine House Nursery School.

RNIB runs

- an education advisory service
- four nursery schools
- two schools for multi-handicapped blind children
- two secondary schools
- a further education college
- four homes for elderly blind people and people who are deaf as well as blind
- a hostel for blind workers in London
- four hotels for holidays
- a rehabilitation centre for newly-blind people
- a school of physiotherapy
- a Commercial Training College
- the Talking Book Library serving over 57,000 blind people
- braille and Moon publishing works
- braille and tape libraries for students
- a job-finding and employment research service
- a support scheme for self-employed blind people
- a service selling every year at subsidised prices aids and games for blind people
- a London Resource Centre displaying hundreds of aids and giving advice
- a grant-giving scheme for research to prevent blindness

RNIB was set up in 1868 to provide embossed reading material. Since then its services have expanded so that it is now the largest organisation of its kind in the world. RNIB offers skilled caring help to blind people of all ages, from babies to grannies — with their schooling, to find and to do the same jobs as sighted people, to run their own homes and bring up families, to enjoy sports and hobbies and to learn to cope with losing their sight. RNIB also promotes research to prevent blindness. RNIB is run by an Executive Council (see pages 15-16) more than half of them visually handicapped. RNIB depends on legacies and donations to maintain and develop its services to the 130,000 blind people in Britain.

Royal National
Institute for the Blind
224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA



How you can help blind people

RNIB helps *all* blind people, young and old, university students and housewives, swimmers and physiotherapists, lawyers and gardeners—and all the rest of Britain's blind people.

All the services detailed in this Annual Report—and many others too—contribute towards making a fuller life for people who cannot see for themselves.

**That is why we ask you to read this
now . . .**

. . . and why we ask you to help.

I would like to help blind people and enclose my gift of £
towards RNIB's work.

Name

Address

☐ Please tick here if you would like an acknowledgement.

☐ and here if you would like to receive more information about
helping in other ways

How to make your help live on

If you would like to leave money in your Will to help blind people, we suggest you include one of the following clauses:

I give to the ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND, 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA,

either the sum of pounds free of all death duties

or the residue of my estate

If you have already made your Will and now want to help blind people you can do so by adding a Codicil. To make sure your wishes are carried out exactly as you intend, we suggest you consult a solicitor. We would be happy to provide you or your advisers with further information.

If you have not made a Will, you might like RNIB's lighthearted but useful free leaflet, "Granny's only left you the old armchair".

Bequests to charities are exempt from Capital Transfer Tax.

Covenants

One of the most beneficial ways to help RNIB is through a Deed of Covenant. This simply means that you agree to donate a specific amount of money each year for a period of four years or more. This allows RNIB to reclaim from the Inland Revenue the Income Tax that would have been paid on the covenanted amounts. In this way at the standard rate of tax we actually receive £143 if you covenant £100.

Deed of Covenant

I, Mr/Mrs/Miss

(full name in capitals)

(address)

undertake to pay, by Deed of Covenant, The Trustees of the Charities Aid Foundation, 48 Pembury Road, Tonbridge, Kent, each year for four years (or during my lifetime if shorter) from today the sum that will after deduction of income tax at the basic rate of £.....* which with tax recoverable shall be paid to the Royal National Institute for the Blind. (*Please enter the sum you wish to give annually.)

Signed, sealed and delivered

Date

Please ask a friend to witness your signature:

Witness's signature

Witness's address

(Your first payment, payable to Charities Aid Foundation, may be attached unless you are using the Bankers Order form.)

Bankers Orders

To:
(name and address of your bank)

.....
Please pay to the credit of the Charities Aid Foundation 'D' a/c No 36880043 at National Westminster Bank Ltd (60-30-06), Bloomsbury (Parr's Branch), 126 High Holborn, London WC1 for the later credit of Royal National Institute for the Blind, the sum of £..... monthly/quarterly/annually starting on (date—which should be the same for the Deed of Covenant) until further notice, and debit my account no accordingly.

Office Use Only: Note to Remitting Bank
When making each payment please quote:

Mr/Mrs/Miss
(name and initials in capitals)

Address

Signature

Please return these forms after completion to: RNIB, 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA.